

AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

April 15, 2014

**Co-sponsorship for TIGER Grant for the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Metro Station**

The Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station (the station) connects the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (Metro) Blue and Green lines and functions as a major regional transit center. The station provides the only transfer point between the two rail lines and has the fourth highest passenger boardings in the entire Metro rail system.

The station is located in unincorporated Willowbrook, an economically distressed area of Los Angeles County (the County), which is undergoing significant revitalization through the County's ongoing efforts to expand medical services on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Campus. In addition, the County, in coordination with Metro, the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC), and community partners, has also initiated pedestrian and bike improvements, affordable housing and open space projects, along with a variety of other community enhancements in the surrounding area.

Metro's Master Plan for the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station, completed in cooperation with the County and with input from the community, proposes a reconfiguration

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of the station area, including an expansion of the station platform, a new southern entrance to improve pedestrian movement, rider-oriented retail amenities, and a Sheriff's sub-station. These improvements promise to better connect transit riders from the station to health services, jobs, training and retail opportunities available in the surrounding community. In order to complete the envisioned improvements, Metro would redevelop a 1.25 acre portion of the adjacent 14 acre Kenneth Hahn Plaza (the plaza). CDC, which owns the land and ground leases the 14 acre site, would work collaboratively to transfer its ownership interest in the 1.25 acre portion to Metro.

At their April 24, 2014 Board Meeting, the Metro Board of Directors will be asked to commit a local match for the project so that a Department of Transportation "Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Act" (TIGER) grant for the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Master Plan Implementation Project can be submitted. Based on the TIGER grant evaluation criteria, the station master plan meets all of the criteria and should be stiff competition against other applicants. Given the County's ongoing engagement in the revitalization of this community, and that CDC has fee ownership of the portion of the property on which the improvements are planned, it is appropriate for CDC to co-sponsor Metro's TIGER application and work with Metro to transfer the fee ownership so that the objectives of improving the rider experience, along with enhancing the safety and accessibility of the station can be realized. These station improvements are critical to enhancing the overall quality of life and economic revitalization of the Willowbrook community.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:**

1. Work collaboratively with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, as a co-sponsor, to submit a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Act grant to the United States Department of Transportation for the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Master Plan Implementation; and
2. Initiate steps to transfer its property ownership interest in the 1.25 acre portion of Kenneth Hahn Plaza to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority in order to facilitate the proposed Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station Master Plan Implementation.

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